

Serial No. 10/789,154

Independent claim 22, of group 2, requires that the carbon particle fiber be formed of carbon particles that were aligned at least in part by being flowed through a tapering tube as part of a curable liquid. Thus, the carbon particle fiber of group 2 cannot be formed by gel-spinning. Consequently, independent claim 22, and its dependent claims 23b and 24 should be part of group I.

Applicants note that claims 28-31 were not placed in any group. However, since independent claim 28 is a method claim, and it requires a tapering tube, as do all the claims of group I, applicant believes that independent claim 28, and claims 29-31 which depend therefrom, all belong as well to group I.

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Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

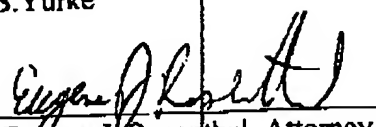
If, however, the Examiner still believes that there are unresolved issues, he is invited to call applicant's attorney so that arrangements may be made to discuss and resolve any such issues.

In the event that an extension of time is required for this amendment to be considered timely, and a petition therefor does not otherwise accompany this amendment, any necessary extension of time is hereby petitioned for, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the appropriate cost of such petition to the Lucent Technologies Deposit Account No. 12-2325.

Respectfully,

D. S. Greywall
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By


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Lucent Technologies Inc.

Date: 5/26/06